

December 10, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) announced that he secured \$30,000 in federal funding for the Happiness House and Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy Association in Geneva to create an identification card system for the New Friends pre-school program to further protect children and staff.

"The Happiness House does so many great things for children throughout the region," **Arcuri said**

"Keeping the staff and students as safe and comfortable as possible is imperative to maintaining a top-notch learning environment. I want to offer my continued support to Happiness House and the Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy Association as they continue their record of quality education and care for so many."

"Happiness House/Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy Association is thankful to Congressman Arcuri for obtaining the funding which will further assist with the safety and welfare of more than 150 preschoolers with and without special needs who attend our New Friends program in Geneva," **Happiness House/Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy CEO Mary Boatfield said.**

"We truly appreciate the Congressman's support of those in need in our communities including the more than 1000 individuals with and without disabilities in the Finger Lakes region that Happiness House serves."

This funding will be used to install a keyless identification card entry system and to purchase a badging printer and camera to create identification cards for all personnel at Happiness House in Geneva and the students in the New Friends program. The project would ensure a secure environment for the families served through the organization. Happiness House provides services for children and adults with and without disabilities in the areas of special education, early childhood education, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, music therapy, psychology, service coordination and nursing.

The funds secured by Arcuri are included in the Fiscal Year 2010 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, which is expected to pass the House of Representatives this week. The legislation will then proceed to the Senate before reaching President Obama for final approval.

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